

Lebanon's Baptist broadcasters don't ask, "Is anyone listening?"

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP) — Workers at the Baptist Center for Mass Communications in east Beirut don't have to ask, "Is anyone out there listening?"

A record 900 letters from throughout the Arab world were received in March, reports Pete Dunn, the Southern Baptist missionary who directs the center. Several programs are produced at the center for various radio stations broadcasting to the Middle East.

"The war in Lebanon seems to be endless," Dunn comments. "There are shortages of spare parts for studio equipment, electricity is scarce . . . yet the Baptist Center continues to function. The employees are subject to bombardment and kidnapping as they come and go, but they continue."

Listeners' letters, Dunn quotes one employee as saying, "make all our efforts worthwhile." Still, "We need prayer — concentrated prayer — that we might be able to continue to function," Dunn says.

From Egypt, a man wrote, "I was lost, I was in the evil way. But when I heard the Baptist program . . . on Radio Monte Carlo, I came back to God. I said to him: 'Give me mercy. I'm a sinner.' And in the same hour I felt a new spirit inside me. I am asking you to send me the Holy Bible so I can grow in faith."

A woman from Syria wrote she "received the second birth about six months ago. I became a daughter to him who gave his life for me. I have listened to your programs . . . a long time."

During 1984, two Southern Baptist missionaries and three Lebanese employees at the Baptist Center for Mass Communications recorded 2,400 contacts from 260 radio programs they produced.



"Go ye, therefore . . ."

Victor, standing center with the group in the front yard of a home used for services for Bella Vista Church in Godoy Cruz, Argentina, had refused to listen to the gospel until two Mississippians showed up. Baptist Record editor Don McGregor, at Victor's left, was the first to be privileged to present the gospel to him. The other Mississippian is Jesse

McMillan, third from left, who also spoke with Victor and his brother, Oscar, who is second from left. Oscar's wife is between him and McGregor, and a friend from San Juan at right. On that Sunday afternoon Victor, Oscar, and the friend made professions of faith. The brothers' mother is between McMillan and Victor. (Editorial on Page 2.)

The Baptist Record

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Board elects two to staff, approves 72 for missions

By Michael Tutterow

ATLANTA (BP)—Southern Baptist Home Mission Board directors elected two new staff members for the Atlanta-based agency during their May meeting, and confirmed the election of another new staff member, a Mississippian, earlier approved by mail poll.

The HMB executive committee elected Ronald W. Loftis of Fayetteville, N. C., as assistant director of church and community ministries; David Morgan of Des Moines, Iowa, as assistant director of the HMB church loans division; and William F. Reed of Atlanta as assistant director of the board's loan servicing department.

Loftis, director of Christian social ministries for New South River Baptist Association in Fayetteville, N.C., was named to the newly-created position in the church and community ministries department, effective May 15.

Loftis, who has worked with the New South River Association since 1977, will assist churches, associations and state conventions in developing strategies for church and community ministry.

Morgan, named assistant director in the church loans division effective May 15, succeeds Joe Carl Johnson, who retired last year. Morgan will be based in Des Moines where he now lives and will work primarily with churches in the western United States.

Directors also affirmed a mail poll vote taken to elect Reed assistant

director of the board's loan servicing department. The vote, taken during April when the executive committee does not meet, named Reed to the post effective April 22.

Reed, who succeeds Tom Haynes who also retired last year, will assist in working with churches, title companies and attorneys to insure legal requirements have been met to allow the disbursement of loan funds.

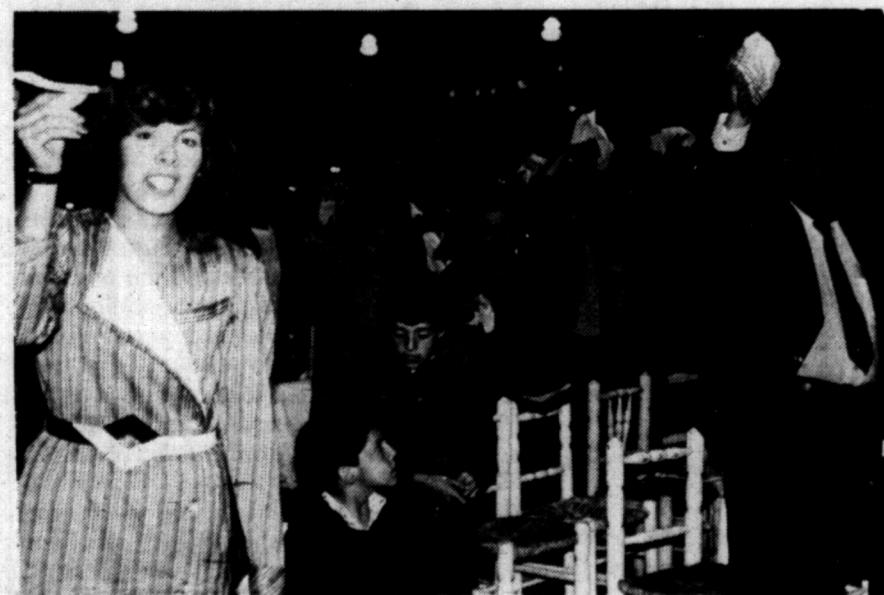
Reed, a native of Greenwood, Miss., is a graduate of Mississippi State University and the Atlanta Law School. He was formerly executive vice-president and director of real estate syndication for the Southern Real Estate Equities, Inc., in Atlanta. He previously worked as vice-president for Massey and Fair, Inc., an Atlanta company.

In other actions, the board appointed four missionaries, six missionary associates, and two church planter apprentices and upgraded one person from missionary associate to missionary status. Sixty persons were approved to receive church, language, and field pastoral assistant.

Michael Tutterow writes for the Home Mission Board.



Diego Molina, son-in-law of the Aranda family of Bella Vista Church, puts on a show for visitors in the home for lunch. Seated around the table are, left to right, Mirtha Aranda, David Vick, missionary to Argentina; Silvia Molina; and "Tweeie" Aranda. Mrs. Aranda and Walter Aranda stand to the right of Diego; and Pedro, the father, stands to his left. Evangelist Jesse McMillan was engaged in the traditional siesta at the time, and the editor took the picture. One Aranda daughter, Cristina, is a missionary in the Chaco Province; and another, Margarita, is a student in the seminary.



Silvia Molina and her father, Pedro Aranda, lead the waving of handkerchiefs in bidding farewell to Mississippians McMillan and McGregor on Sunday night. Young Marcelo Ezcurra, standing beside Silvia, takes it all in.

What's Inside?

Editorials — Page 2

My heart in Bella Vista

Faces and Places — Page 7

Pan-American journey

Jack Gunn is writing biography — Page 3

Moore would accept nomination — Page 5

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee

Editorials..... by don mcgregor

My heart in Bella Vista

I walked into a house in Godoy Cruz, a suburb of Mendoza, Argentina, and presented the gospel to a man who lived there. It was the first time he had ever sat down and listened. It was also the first time I had ever presented the gospel to someone who had never heard it before.

I was not the only one there that day. Jesse McMillan of Sallis was also present, and he spoke. We both presented our witness through missionary-interpreter David Vick. But I was the first one to speak.

It is an awesome thing to present the message of salvation at any time. It is particularly so when it is the first time it has been heard.

It was not that the man had not had an opportunity to hear the gospel. He had refused to listen before and, as I understood it, had refused to allow anyone around him who intended to make such a presentation to him.

When he heard there were visitors coming from Mississippi, however, he agreed to listen. He did listen, he believed, he made a profession of faith that afternoon, and he joined the church that night.

The change was dramatic and immediate. When we arrived he was withdrawn and quiet. Immediately on making his profession of faith, he left the room in tears. He was soon back, however, with a smile that had not faded at the end of the church services that night. That was the last time I saw him and very likely will be the last time I will ever see him until we meet in glory.

He will be there, and we will have a joyous reunion.

Another group of Mississippians is in Argentina now. A third group will go in June. How many times will such

witnessing victories be experienced? There were 1,469 professions of faith during the visit of the April group.

The country is wide open to the gospel. The people are only nominally Catholic and are discouraged with their political situation. They are looking for an anchor. The 150 or so Mississippians who will have been there by the time the campaign ends will be taking the interest factor with them that will cause many to pause and listen who haven't been listening before.

How long the door will remain open is a question. The trials of military leaders were getting under way as we left. This will be a traumatic experience for the country. If the military leaders are convicted and the sentences are either too stringent or too light, it could cause conditions to exist that would make such visits impractical, we were told. The same could happen if the leaders are exonerated. They are being tried for crimes against the people during the military dictatorship.

But it is open now.

Bill Malone, missionary to Mendoza, said at an asado for all of the translators, Mississippians, and national pastors and their wives, "It is amazing what God is doing through you who have come so far and who cannot even speak the language."

(An asado, by the way, is an outdoor cookout, a sort of Argentine barbecue, that is a favorite way of entertaining in Argentina.)

"The missionaries in Argentina,"

said Malone, are committed to an earth-shaking revival."

Perhaps it is under way. Perhaps, by the grace of God, we Mississippians have been privileged to help open the door to just such a revival. That was the reason for the Rio de la Plata partnership.

In home after home such experiences took place as was mentioned above. In that particular home the mother of the man lived there along with his brother and his brother's wife. The wife and mother were church members. The two sons both made professions of faith that afternoon. The mother was almost to the point of shouting.

On our first night with Bella Vista Church in Godoy Cruz we were treated royally at a welcoming service. Wonder of wonders, I responded in Spanish to the welcome. I hope it was understandable. The people applauded. I got acquainted with a radiant woman who introduced herself simply as Cha Cha, which is her nickname. She is Enilda de Barrios. Her 15-year-old son, Ariel Barrios, is also a church member and is the choir director. Her daughter, Gladys, is a church member. Her two older sons, however, were not. An earthquake on Jan. 26 destroyed her home, so she, Ariel, and Gladys moved in with a son, Juan Carlos Barrios. During the revival Cha Cha invited the team to lunch at the home of Juan Carlos. During the afternoon, the missionary David Vick, witnessed in Spanish; and both Juan Carlos and his wife,

Marian, made professions of faith. This made Cha Cha very happy, but before the week was out Juan Carlos had won his older brother and his wife, and all of Cha Cha's children along with their wives were Christians and the final four were awaiting baptism.

On Sunday night, as Juan Carlos Barrios was leaving the rented hall where the revival was held, he caught the eye of the missionary and gave him a victory sign.

On Wednesday afternoon, Diego Molina, who was mentioned last week, took us to the home of friends; and four persons made professions of faith. In this instance the editor kept

quiet and Diego participated in the witnessing along with Jesse and the missionary.

On Friday afternoon a young lady named Isabel Garro, who is the only Baptist in a Catholic family, took us to the home of a friend who made a profession. On Saturday night she invited the team along with Silvia and Diego Molina to her home for dinner, and again Silvia and Diego began to charm their way into the hearts of their hosts, Isabel's Catholic parents. (Picture last week.)

On his way to his brother's home for lunch, Ariel Barrios took us by the home of a woman who made a profes-

(Continued on page 6)



Guest opinion . . .

Dallas 85, the bottom line

By G. Wiley Gann

It is high time that we of the Southern Baptist Convention took a long, hard look at the "bottom line" of the controversy shaping up for the Dallas Convention in June. Out of concern for the Lord's work, I am writing this article to try to call attention to just that. I am sure that my position is close to the position of the vast majority of Southern Baptist pastors; and our views need to be heard, and perhaps heeded, before we go too far.

For months now members of Southern Baptist churches have been bombarded with accusations and counter-accusations from one group of leaders directed at another group, and vice-versa, with most of us not knowing who to believe. At first the attacks were leveled only against Paige Patterson and Judge Paul Pressler and their alleged attempts to take over the Southern Baptist Convention. I have always had serious doubts as to whether such an attempt was ever a reality. I have never had anyone try to instruct, or even influence, me to vote for a particular individual. I have never seen a command post set up at a convention with

some general running the show, as has been told, nor have I ever talked to anyone who has seen it. On the other hand, I have doubted the accuracy of many of the charges made by Patterson and Pressler about other individuals. One thing is sure! The convention president is elected by messengers from autonomous Southern Baptist churches, not by any pair of individuals or any small group. However, most of us could live with that amount of bickering since such has always been around in churches, and in the convention, and it always will be.

Then came Roy Honeycutt's declaration of "Holy War." He was later joined by Russell Dilday and others. And to put the icing on the cake, the president of our Foreign Mission Board, Keith Parks, recently joined these other men in an attempt to unseat a convention president that even the critics admit is a great preacher of the Word. Their reasoning is that Charles Stanley is identified with the conservatives, which threatens the Cooperative Program, and that the percentage of giv-

ing by his church through the Cooperative Program is less than they think it should be. We must take note that this is the same attempt at infringement on the autonomy of a local church, and her pastor, that these people have criticized Patterson and Pressler for. This attempt to unseat Stanley, if successful, is destined to do the very thing they claim they want to prevent, a split in the Southern Baptist Convention.

We should be reminded that even though we may not like the tactics of Patterson and Judge Pressler, or others like them, they are independent men who are not under the control of the denominational government. They are not on salary with a Southern Baptist agency nor are they using Cooperative Program funds to finance their campaign. The same cannot be said for Honeycutt, Dilday, and Parks; and that makes the big difference.

Much adq was made in the most recent edition of The Call magazine about the warning from Jimmy Draper that churches might withhold Cooperative Program funds if Charles

Stanley is defeated by such a conspiracy. That warning should be heeded. Southern Baptist Churches, and their pastors, are the only controlling bodies that we have on the flow of Cooperative Program dollars. Draper was not making a threat, as I understand it, but was trying to warn us of a possible danger. Parks said basically the same thing later and those who criticized Draper jumped on his statement with fanfare and applause. Harsh accusations are also being leveled against men like Adrian Rogers, Bailey Smith, W. A. Criswell, and others that every sound-minded Baptist knows are the men, along with others like them, who are doing the work of missions and evangelism in the Southern Baptist Convention while the others talk about it. Their records do not need defending by me.

The bottom line is this; if I, and other pastors like me, must make a choice in Dallas, and it looks as though we will be forced to, there is no choice to be made. We will stand with men like Rogers, Smith, Draper,

(Continued on page 4)

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Rain falls on Ethiopia

RABEL, Ethiopia (BP)—Rain has come to give starving Ethiopians hope for a growing season but has choked shut the road to the Southern Baptist feeding center in mountainous Rabel.

The muddy road has hampered four-wheel drive trucks, but missionaries have kept the center operating on grain brought in by helicopter and by "bombing run" air drops from low-flying aircraft of Britain's Royal Air Force.

Meanwhile, 1,200 Ethiopian farmers took three days to build an airstrip in Rabel in a food-for-work program to

provide backup landing facilities for small aircraft.

Agricultural missionary Lynn Groce said the feeding and health care center also has begun distributing sorghum and wheat seed which Ethiopian farmers will plant along with barley seed the Ethiopians had on hand.

Groce said many parts of Ethiopia, including the 10,000-foot highlands where Southern Baptists operate the center, can expect a crop in four to six months. But he said short-term feeding and health care will have to

continue until the farmers get back on their feet and long-range assistance can begin.

Missionaries credit the life-giving rain to prayer by Baptists and others around the world. "God has answered prayer," Groce said. "It's unusual to have rains in May as heavy as they are now." Leaders of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and state Baptist conventions and newspapers urged prayer for the drought-stricken continent under the theme: "Water is Life. Pray for Rain in Africa."

Since then rain has come to a number of countries in Africa, but others, especially the Sahel countries of West Africa below the Sahara desert, still suffer from severe drought. Ironically, rain has caused flooding and damage in some parts of Ethiopia but the benefits outweigh the problems, Groce said.

Recently in Zimbabwe, where rain has broken drought, hundreds of people from several denominations, including Baptists, met on a hilltop in Sanyati for a four-hour service to thank God for rain.

Ethiopian missionaries still plan to expand operations to include at least two more feeding centers this year for short-term relief before they can implement long-term assistance in agriculture, water development, animal health, and community development.

They soon will begin a survey of the Merhabete district to the west of Menz-Gishe where they now work, and have requested volunteers to operate a feeding center there. The needed personnel include two nurses, a physician, and a field director. The physician would also coordinate medical work in other areas, including Rabel.



William Carey College on the Coast broke ground May 10 for a \$2.2 million residential complex. Introducing the officials taking part in the groundbreaking is Carey President J. Ralph Noonkester, foreground. Participants are, left to right: Bobby Perry, director of missions for Gulf Coast Baptist Association; Luther Boyd, vice chairperson of the Carey board of trustees; Bill Tompkins of the architectural firm of Tompkins and Associates; Rodney Fairchild of W. R. Fairchild Construction Co.; Glenn Sweatman of Peoples Bank of Biloxi; and Gulfport Mayor Jack Barnett.

Carey on Coast breaks ground to begin residential complex

Officials from William Carey College broke ground on May 10 to begin construction of a \$2.2 million residential complex on the school's Coast campus in Gulfport.

The project will include four three-story buildings that will contain a total of 96 units for single and married students, providing the first on-campus housing since the college opened the regional campus in 1976.

The college, which has its main campus in Hattiesburg, will spend an

additional \$400,000 to renovate existing buildings to provide expanded classroom and library facilities.

Since Carey purchased the 20-acre campus of Gulf Coast Military Academy in 1976 the college has operated primarily an evening commuter program.

Beginning this fall Carey on the Coast will make the transition to a full-time campus, featuring day and evening classes and on-campus housing.

Task force drafts motion for "solutions" committee

A special committee to determine the sources and proposed solutions to differences plaguing Southern Baptists may be established next month when more than 20,000 messengers meet in Dallas for the annual session of the nation's largest evangelistic body. Presidents of state Baptists conventions met in St. Louis April 11-12 and named a task force from their group to draft a motion establishing a special committee. The task force met in Memphis May 13-14 to complete drafting of the motion.

The state presidents will convene in Dallas prior to the opening of the convention June 12 to act on the motion. If the presidents agree, they will present the motion to the convention.

In the motion provision is made for a 15 person committee representing the various positions in the denomination. The task force is working on names of persons to be considered for membership on the committee.

The proposal calls for the committee to seek to work through established channels within institutions and agencies of the SBC.

The committee would give status reports to the Executive Committee of the denomination. The final report could be given to the SBC in its Atlanta meeting in 1986, but could wait until the 1987 session if the special committee felt it hadn't had time to complete its work.

Then for the period of the committee's work, the proposed motion asks that all parties to the debate "exercise restraint" and "refrain from divisive action and comments" as well as demonstrate "Christian love."

The task force drafting the motion includes Bill Hickem, Fla., chairman; Charles Pickering, Miss.; John Gilbert, Mo.; Jack May, Tenn.; Neil Thompson, Alaska; Norman Wiggins, N.C.; and Wallace Henley, Ala.



Jack Gunn rechecks biographies completed to date, which vary in length from one-half page to two pages each.

Jack Gunn is writing biography of Mississippi Baptist preachers

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

A collection of biographies of Mississippi Baptist preachers is underway. Jack Gunn, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, is writing it.

Such a book has not been released in this state since L. S. Foster's *Mississippi Baptist Preachers* in 1895. That work with its 410 brief biographies has been a boon to researchers. However, it was high time for another, decided the Historical Commission members. They selected Gunn to write it. He is a member of First Baptist Church, Cleveland, who before retirement was academic dean at Delta State University. Since July, 1981, he has been executive secretary of the Commission.

Where to begin and who to include

in the book? These questions came first. Gunn turned to Miss Edwina Robinson for some answers. Since she retired as executive director of Mississippi WMU, Miss Robinson has been a researcher for the Historical Commission. For this biography project, she searched for names in annuals of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, from 1895 to the present. From that study, she estimated that at least 10,000 ordained ministers have served in the state during that time.

To narrow the field, Gunn chose to include in this first volume only those ordained ministers who are still living—in Mississippi or elsewhere—who have at some time served pastorates in this state. (This includes associational missionaries and retired pastors, too.)

In future volumes, he plans to work backward toward 1900.

In 1983, questionnaires were mailed to 1,761 pastors in the state, asking for biographical information. To date, 629 of these have been returned. As two years have elapsed in the meantime, possibly many of those 629 need to be updated now. Gunn states that anyone who wishes to send in an update still has time to do so. He has not set a deadline yet, when he will have to stop taking new information, but thinks it will be some time during 1986.

Ordained ministers who want their names and biographies in the book are urged to send information. They may obtain the biographical form by writing the Mississippi Baptist

(Continued on page 8)

Dallas, '85 — the bottom line

(Continued from page 2)

Criswell, etc. who are independent pastors cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention and working directly with the people who give the money to support Honeycutt, Dilday, and Parks. We cannot, yea must not, continue to tolerate denominational servants who assume ecclesiastical authority to use their high positions and Cooperative Program dollars to fight against those who pay their comfortable salaries. A word to the wise should be sufficient. The overwhelming majority of Southern Baptists will identify with the conservatives. Whether enough will make it to Dallas in June to thwart this ruthless attempt remains to be seen. But be assured, the real power and authority will not be settled in Dallas; and it will not be vested in either Honeycutt or Pressler.

Keith Parks should reconsider his stand and apologize to the Southern Baptist people for bringing the Foreign Mission Board into the middle of the controversy, or else he should resign his high office, as should

Honeycutt and Dilday. If they must get involved in a fight they should get out of denominational service.

The losers in this battle will be the Cooperative Program and the Kingdom of God in the world. I do not want to have to make a choice in Dallas, and I pray that the convention will not split. The smart thing for all to do would be to re-elect Charles Stanley to a second term and use the next 12 months as a cooling off period. Next year all groups could do whatever they must to get their man elected president and without getting personalities involved as would be the case with Stanley's defeat this year. This reasonable approach just might prevent a split that we may never come this close to again. However, the defeat of Stanley, under the current circumstances, may very well split the greatest missions organization this world has ever known. Satan wants to see it happen, but do we? The choice is ours, not his.

G. Wiley Gann is pastor of the Rienzi Baptist Church, Rienzi.

Hanna-Barbera to produce Bible stories for children

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (EP)—The company that popularized Yogi Bear and Huckleberry Hound is trying something new: animated Bible stories on video cassettes. Hanna-Barbera will spend about \$20 million over the next five years on "The Greatest Adventure: Stories From the Bible."

Already in production, the first six stories in the series include "David and Goliath," "Noah and the Ark," and "Samson and Delilah." The 30-minute tapes should be available in video stores by October, and are expected to sell for approximately \$20 each.

Sigrests will give concert during SBC music meet at First, Dallas

DALLAS (BP) — The role of music in missions and evangelism will receive considerable attention during the 1985 meeting of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, June 9-10 at First Baptist Church, Dallas.

The conference-meets each year prior to the Southern Baptist Convention which is set for June 11-13 at the Dallas-Convention Center.

There will be two sessions Sunday, June 9, and three sessions June 10.

The Sunday afternoon session features the theme address, "Musicians on Mission," by Wes Forbis, secretary of the church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn.; concerts by the Southwestern Seminary Singers and Neilson and Young (concert artists from Dallas), and a lecture/demonstration on "Choral Techniques for the Church," by Hugh Sanders, professor at Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

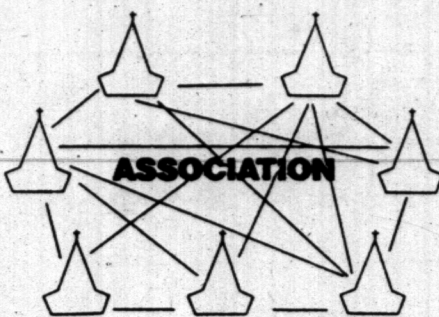
Sunday night will include worship at First Baptist, including music by the

church choirs and orchestra and a sermon by Pastor W. A. Criswell. Other program activities include an organ recital by Joyce Jones, professor at Baylor; a concert by the Southern Seminary Choir from Louisville, Ky., and presentation of a commissioned anthem, "Lord Thy Church on Earth is Seeking," by David Schwoebel, music assistant at First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala.

The evening will close with a reception hosted by the church music department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Monday morning will begin with worship led by Joel Gregory, professor at Southwestern seminary, followed by a concert by the Sunset Serenaders of Cliff Temple Baptist Church in Dallas, and a panel discussion on "The Role of the Music Evangelist."

The session also will include presentation of honorary memberships and a concert by R. L. and Beth Sigrest,



DOMs will meet June 9-10

DALLAS (BP)—The Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Missions will meet June 9-10 at the Central Expressway Inn, Dallas, prior to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The three-session program, under the theme, "The Director of Missions—Who? How?" will look at basic information for the job.

During the opening session Sunday afternoon: J. Woodrow Fuller, retired director of missions in Texas and Florida, will discuss "Who is a Director of Missions and What Does He Do?," while his wife, June Fuller, will talk about the role of a wife of a director of missions; Morton Rose, vice-president at the Baptist Sunday School Board, will discuss "How Does a Director of Missions Maintain Excellence in Programs?," and William Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will speak on "How Does a Director of Missions Dream?"

Sunday evening Gene Daniel, senior vice-president for marketing at the Annuity Board, will explore the relationship between the Annuity Board and the director of missions.

During the closing session Monday morning, Doran C. McCarty, professor at Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., will speak on "What Does the Future Hold?" and W. E. Thorne, retired president of Dallas Baptist University, will discuss, "How Does a Director of Missions Plan for and Enjoy Retirement?"

music evangelists from Yazoo City, Miss.

Monday afternoon will center on "Musician on Missions . . . in Action" with looks at prison ministry, youth choir mission tours and "Adopt a Missionary." There also will be concerts by Carol McClure Hahn, a harpist from Atlanta and the Singing Churchmen of Oklahoma and another lecture/demonstration by Sanders on "Choral Techniques in the Church."

The closing session, Monday evening, includes another sermon by Gregory and two concerts: one by the choir and orchestra from First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., and another by the combined voices of the 1985 Texas Baptist All-State Youth Choir and the Singing Men of Texas.

It is easy to dodge our responsibilities, but we cannot dodge the consequences of dodging our responsibilities. — English Digest

Southern Baptist evangelists set Dallas meeting, program

DALLAS (BP) — Robert Hamblin, Bill Stafford, and Jerry Vines will be featured speakers at the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists, June 10-12 in Dallas.

The meeting, held in conjunction with the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention, will hold its primary meeting at First Baptist Church in Dallas, June 12. The business session and three fellowship functions will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dallas.

Robert Hamblin, vice-president for evangelism at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; Bill Stafford, an evangelist from Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Jerry Vines, co-pastor of First Church, Jacksonville, Fla., will

preach to the gathering. Hamblin is former pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo.

Charles Stanley, pastor of First Church, Atlanta, will deliver greetings to the evangelists as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Home Mission Board will host a reception for all Southern Baptist evangelists and state directors of evangelism Monday, 10-11:30 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Then Tuesday and Wednesday nights, after the SBC sessions have adjourned, the C.O.S.B.E. will host a Festival of Praise featuring 15 individuals or groups each night who are music evangelists from 10-11:30. The public is invited.

Petty will speak during family week at Gulfshore

Charles Petty of Raleigh, N. C. will be the speaker during family enrichment week July 1 to 5 at Gulfshore Assembly at Pass Christian.



Petty is the developer of the film and tape series titled "Success in Marriage."

Family Enrichment Week is sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission. Billy Johnson, pastor of Dixie Church, Hattiesburg, and his wife will also be program personalities and will present samples of the Parenting by Grace program, according to Paul Jones, executive director-treasurer of

the Christian Action Commission.

The music will be led by Bill Bacon, minister of music at First Church, Clinton, and his wife, Martha. Mrs. Bacon is a recording artist and college voice teacher.

Family Enrichment Week will begin with supper on Monday evening and conclude with lunch on Friday. A registration fee of \$30 per person or \$60 per family is required, Jones noted. Registration details should be worked out with Gulfshore Assembly, he said.

"Family Enrichment Week is designed to 'provide opportunities for already good marriages to experience the opportunity for growth, affirmation, and renewal,' Jones said.

There will be learning activities for all children and young people, he said.

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Moore announces availability as SBC president nominee

By Toby Druin

AMARILLO, Texas (BP)—With the urging of "several hundred letters" and the conviction "it is time to turn our convention back to the mainstream and its main commitment to missions, Christian education, and service," former Mississippi pastor W. Winfred Moore announced May 10 he will allow his nomination for president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The announcement, he said, came after long deliberations and prayer and with the full support of his wife and the deacons of First Church, Amarillo, where he has been pastor for the last 25 years.

Moore, 65, thus ended months of speculation about whether he would oppose current SBC President Charles Stanley who previously announced he will permit his nomination for a second year.

Moore, who is in his second year as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said after his second straight election without opposition last fall that he thought neither he nor Stanley were the man to lead the SBC. He has changed his mind, he said, "Because nobody else has come forward to say they are willing to do it."

"I have kept hoping somebody would emerge that everybody could agree is the person to lead us, but it hasn't happened," he said. Instead, he has received hundreds of letters from pastors and laymen from every area of the SBC insisting that he is the man, he said.

Nevertheless, he does so reluctantly, he said.

"I have found myself in the middle of this through the nomination I made last year," he said, referring to his unsuccessful nomination of Dallas pastor Bruce McIver to replace that of Paul Pressler of Houston for the SBC Executive Committee.

"Nobody asked me to make that nomination and I did so without any animosity toward anyone," he said. "I just didn't think it (Pressler's nomination) represented mainstream Texas Baptists—where we are."

He said, "as the year has gone by and I have tried to look at what we are doing as Southern Baptists, I have been convicted we have to go back and support our institutions and agencies and get on with Bold Mission Thrust."

He never has given credence to the charge of "liberal drift" in the convention, he said, "Because I know where I stood and where the people I am associated with stand—as conservative as anybody could be."

"In fact, I have been kidded and laughed at about being such an arch conservative. The people I know are people who believe the Bible."

"As I have said many times, I don't agree with all of them but it doesn't occur to me, just because I disagree with them that they don't believe the Bible. There may be some who don't but I don't know them."

Of his own theology, Moore said, "I believe the Bible just like it's written. I accept it as God's word to me. I have

no problem accepting any of it, original manuscripts of the Bible we have today."

"I don't understand a lot of it," he added, "but I accept that which I do understand and that which I don't—every bit of it from beginning to end."

Moore's church was for many years the SBC leader in contributions through the Cooperative Program and this year will give \$827,000—19.5 percent of its undesignated receipts.

"The church voted in 1981 to increase its Cooperative Program support by 10 percent per year through the 1980s," Moore said, "and thus far we are ahead of schedule."

If he is not elected SBC president, he said, it will have no effect on the church's CP support. "We are going to keep on giving just exactly like we have been giving, no matter who is elected," he said.

Some fundamentalist leaders have indicated they might lead their churches to "escrow" their Cooperative Program gifts if Stanley is not elected. Others have asked they be allowed to exclude some SBC agencies from their gifts and still have them considered Cooperative Program gifts.

In the late 1960s Moore's church asked the Christian Life Commission be excluded from receiving its share of the church's CP gifts because of the sponsorship of a seminar in Atlanta which featured an address by a Playboy magazine editor.

"That was a mistake," Moore said. "I still disagree as completely with them as I did then, but if I were doing it today I would certainly do it differently. I would go sit down with Foy Valentine (CLC executive director) and discuss it. I would use the process."

"I think now that what I did was worse than what they had done. My reaction was bad," Moore said.

He decries the emergence of politics in the denomination, he said, and doesn't like any part of it—on my side.

If elected, he said, he will support a committee to try to find a solution

to the denominational controversy.

"The only way we can arrive at reconciliation is to look specifically at areas where people think there are problems, whether in the seminaries or agencies," he said, "to look at them realistically, prayerfully, with a view to making whatever corrections need to be made without accusing anybody and everybody."

Such a committee, he said, would have to represent every school of thought—"to sit down together and work through this so we can all do the mission work God has given us to do."

Moore is a native of Tennessee. He received his education at Lambeth College, Union University, and George Peabody College. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by Wayland Baptist University and Baylor University, he did not attend seminary.

He has a long history of involvement in the Amarillo association and Texas convention. He was chairman of the committee to reorganize the executive board staff a few years ago and was a member of the search committee which recommended William M. Pinson Jr. as executive director of the Texas convention in 1982.

First Baptist of Amarillo, has more than 10,000 members and is one of the largest churches in the SBC. Last year it recorded 234 baptisms and \$591,428 in gifts to the Cooperative Program.

Its total gifts to missions were \$1,266,204 out of total receipts of \$4.8 million.

Moore came to the Amarillo church in 1959. He also has been pastor of Olive Branch Baptist Church, Olive Branch, Miss.; Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, Miss.; First Baptist Church, Borger, Texas, and Central Park Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.

Moore married his wife, Elizabeth, when they were seniors in college. They have three children: a son and daughter who live in Dallas, a daughter in Amarillo, and four grandchildren.

Druin writes for the Texas Baptist Standard.

Two from state are named to credentials

DALLAS (BP)—Two Mississippians have been named to the credentials committee for the 1985 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 11-13, in the Dallas Convention Center.

They are Eddie L. Hamilton, pastor, First Church, Carthage, and James Merritt, pastor, Highland Church, Laurel.

These two were among Southern Baptists named to the credentials and tellers committees by SBC President Charles Stanley.

Stanley, as president, appoints both committees. The credentials committee is appointed by the convention president "in consultation with the vice-presidents," while the tellers

body is named by the president, "in consultation with the registration secretary."

Porter works with both committees during the three-day annual meeting.

The credentials committee, according to the SBC by-laws, "shall review and rule upon any questions which may arise in registration concerning the credentials of messengers." The 26-member group also considers "any contention arising on the floor (of the convention) concerning seating of messengers."

The tellers committee, made up of 13 members, is responsible for tabulating any vote taken by ballot during the convention.

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Reynolds bans Baylor film group

WACO, Texas (BP) — Baylor University President Herbert H. Reynolds has suspended a campus film society for violating university standards. At the same time he criticized "a small but diligent group of fundamentalist students" whom he compared with the Russian secret police. The students, he said, "comprise a religious KGB" on the Baylor campus.

The film society, an independent student group with faculty advisers but which receives no university funding, was suspended for a year, until the spring semester of 1986, for an April 10 showing of the movie "If . . ." The offending movie, reportedly

seen by about 600 Baylor students in two showings, was produced in England in 1969 and is a study of three boys in an English public school who violently rebel against the school's strict disciplinary system. It originally had an X rating but has been cut for wider acceptance. The revised version was shown at Baylor.

In a prepared statement, Reynolds said the film, "which alternates in technique between fact and fantasy, involves a certain ridicule of the norms embraced by most of our constituency and is not in keeping with the standards of Baylor as a university committed to both revealed and discovered truth."



Baptist Record, Jackson, MS #52

My heart in Bella Vista

(Continued from page 2)

sion of faith. Later a woman who lives next to the condemned church building asked us to visit with two teen-aged friends of hers, and both made professions of faith and joined the church.

But perhaps the most significant victory of all came as a result of people not being where they were expected to be. Missionary Toby Walker left after the first week to see about his sick parents in Oklahoma. So Jesse McMillan and I arrived in Godoy Cruz without an interpreter. Our hostess, Charita Ezcurra, enlisted the aid of a high school English teacher who lived nearby. She spoke perfect and fluent English. The pastor was to pick us up at 7 p.m. to go to the welcome service, but he was an hour late. During that hour Jesse won the English teacher to the Lord. The pastor walked in just as she finished asking the Lord to come into her life. She said, "I came here to do a favor for you, and you have done a much greater one for me."

On Saturday morning Silvia Aranda de Molina and her sister, Mirtha Aranda, and I went downtown to find a gift for our host family, the Ezcurras. Silvia and Mirtha know some

English, and with my limited knowledge of Spanish we were able to communicate all week long. The Aranda sisters have a well-worn Spanish-English dictionary. While we were gone, Julio Ezcurra took Jesse and David to visit some people. There were no professions, but the missionary insisted that we must return to one of the homes on Sunday afternoon. The lady at that home made a profession of faith at that time.

This is the way that the Lord is working in Argentina.

The Bella Vista Church in reality has nothing but faith, hope, and love. It is rich, however, in those commodities. It has no building. The building was destroyed in the Jan. 26 earthquake. The lot where the con-

demned building is located is very small. The church is hoping to buy a larger plot for \$30,000, but it has no money. It has plans for a new building, but there is no money for building and no place to put it. It has no musical instrument. Guitars and tapes are used for accompaniment. Most Argentine churches use portable electric organs.

But the church keeps moving under the direction of bi-vocational pastor Armando Zavala and the determination and ability of the members. They are an inspiration.

When we left Mendoza, thirty-five members of the 60-member church were at the airport to see us off.

Without question, I left a part of my heart at Bella Vista.



The choir at the Rio Gallegos Church practices following a service. Services began at 9 p.m. and usually lasted until about 10:30 or 11 p.m.



A rare picture of the editor is shown as he relaxes during a tour of downtown Mendoza with Silvia Molina and Jesse McMillan, right. Diego Molina took the picture.



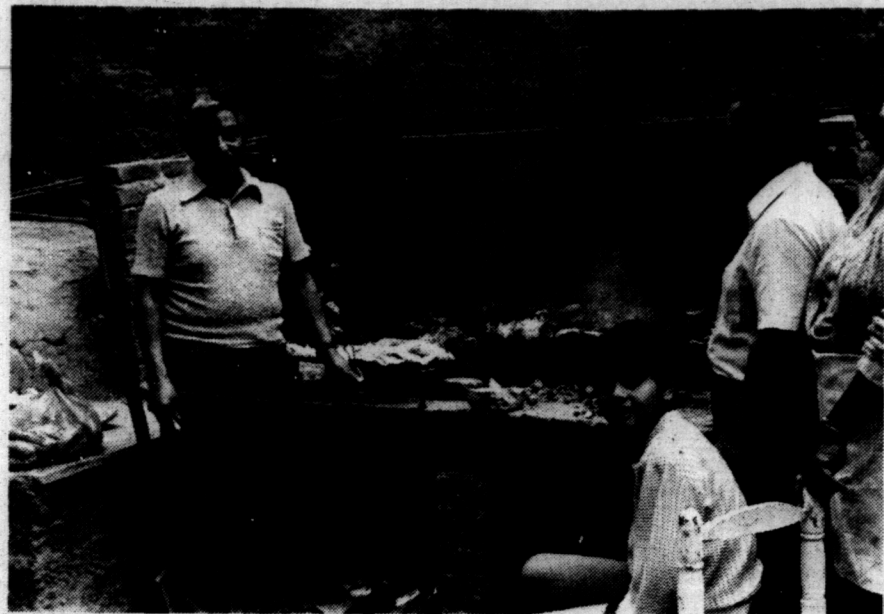
Isabel Garro is the only Baptist in a Catholic family in Godoy Cruz, a suburb of Mendoza, Argentina. She led a Mississippi team to a woman who made a profession of faith and later invited the team into her home for dinner and to meet her parents and her brothers.



Missionary Walker greets a new member of the church at Rio Gallegos. Also at the back of the church are Jose Opozco, Pastor Raul Ramos, and evangelist Jesse McMillan.



On the inside of the Bella Vista Church, poles hold up a side wall to keep it from falling inward. The church was damaged by an earthquake Jan. 26 and condemned. Ariel Barrios, a member, stands beside the poles. Ariel, who is 15 years of age, is choir director for the church.



An "asado" was held at Oeste Church in Mendoza on Saturday for all of the Mississippians, the translators, and the Argentine pastors and their wives.



Mississippians, Argentine pastors and their wives, and missionaries enjoy fellowship at the asado.



Patricio Lucero, left, pastor of Oeste Church, Mendoza, and Mrs. Lucero sit beside missionary Mel Plunk at the asado. Plunk is the former pastor of the church, and Lucero was chairman of deacons at that time. When another pastor could not be found, he resigned his job at the post office and assumed the pastorate. All four of the Lucero children are engaged in vocational Christian services and have been or are students in the seminary.



Earthquake at Godoy Cruz

A dramatic scene of earthquake damage was quickly shot through a car window during a tour of the area affected. Godoy Cruz received major damage.

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

Pan-American journey

Three young Baptist men in Argentina are about to undertake an adventure I've always thought would be fantastic. Wonder if they'd let me tag along? I read about it in the May issue of *El Expositor Bautista* (the Baptist Expositor) that the editor brought back from Argentina. The paper's written in Spanish, but Jean Glaze and Don Mines filled in for me the parts I wasn't sure about.

Ruben Daniel Simari, 23, Santiago Roque Troiano, 22, and Daniel Esteban Cilenti, 20, all of Rosario, Argentina, are planning to drive from Rosario to Los Angeles for the Baptist World Alliance meeting in July, and then drive home again. They expect their trip with sideline stops to take three months. The round-trip distance they estimate will be 30,000 kilometers.

How did they get the idea? They attended the Baptist World Youth Congress held in Buenos Aires and felt there, they said, the "fraternal love and unity in the family of Christ."

They met young people from all over the world, with the same faith as they. In all, the congress was such a high point for them that they wanted to relieve such an experience, this time in Los Angeles.

To get ready, they are saving money to buy a car. They will then equip it so that they can sleep and eat in it along the way.

They plan to leave the first week of June by the Pan-American Highway, to drive through Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia, and then to "skip over" by ship to Central America, and drive through Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and the U.S. to Los Angeles. Along the way, they will visit in Baptist churches.

"We call this a journey of Christian love," they say. They are going to take souvenir pennants and tracts and other printed materials from their church, Distrito Sue Sur de Rosario, to distribute in some of the cities they pass through.

Honeymoon on horseback

And in my mail last week came a letter from Paraguay, from Dennis and Jean McEntire, some of our missionary partners I met in Argentina a couple of years ago. They described a wedding that took place Saturday, April 13, in their new church building at Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay. It was no run-of-the-mill occasion. It was so unusual that I felt an urge to share their story.

"The wedding was special, not only because it was the first to be celebrated in the building. Nor was it special because all of us had to walk in the mud and rain to get to the church building (our car was struck in the mud.)

"The wedding was special mainly because the bride and groom came on horseback from 16 kilometers away (10 miles). They were accompanied by three relatives—the others were unable to trudge through the deep mud or cross the swollen creek.

"A handful of the church members was there to support the young couple. Some brought potted plants to decorate the room. The day before the wedding we had hung up a curtain to hide the ugly wooden window at one

end of the room. Those of us who had walked or come on horseback changed clothes in the church building. Dennis officiated in rubber boots.

"The wedding march was played on a cassette recorder. Since the rehearsal had been rained out, last minute instructions were given before starting and other details were explained during the ceremony. Even those were not very effective, since the bride and groom, Wilfrida and Porfirio, speak mostly Guaraní and very little Spanish.

"When the final blessing had been said and ten pictures were taken by the photographer, everyone changed to his wet travelling clothes, and the wedding party returned on horseback to their farming community.

"In spite of the unusual circumstances, that wedding was meaningful for us all, and it marked the beginning of one more Christian family in the humble cotton fields of Tacua Cora."

And I dared to complain about two flat tires in one week, rather than being grateful that I was bothered by neither mud nor flood.

Help for gamblers remains hard to find

The problems of compulsive gambling in America are multiplying daily as the public infatuation with gambling as popular "entertainment" continues.

According to the National Foundation for Study and Treatment of Pathological Gambling, there are at least 2 million pathological gamblers nationwide. Gamblers Anonymous and the National Council on Com-

pulsive Gambling put the figure at 8 million.

Despite such alarming statistics, help for pathological gamblers is hard to find.

Experts in the treatment of compulsive gamblers point out that more than 4,000 programs exist to treat America's 9 to 10 million alcoholics, but there are fewer than a dozen inpatient programs to treat the country's pathological gamblers.

Thursday, May 23, 1985

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Letters to the Editor

Missions in basketball

Editor:

Lonnie Turner, Southern Baptist missionary in Lusaka, Zambia, has expressed a need for the following:

1. Up to 30 basketball uniforms.
2. Several basketballs (used ones okay).
3. Basketball shoes (used ones okay).
4. A basketball team that would go to Zambia during the summer of 1986 to conduct basketball teaching camps and share the gospel.

For further information, write: Lonnie Turner; Baptist Student Ministry; P. O. Box 320196; Lusaka, ZAMBIA.

Owen Cooper
Yazoo City

Guest opinion timely

Editor:

I thought the guest editorial, "The Healing of our Denomination," was both timely and appropriate.

Indeed, there is a need for repentance in the S.B.C. for pride, among other things. We pride ourselves in being the largest Protestant denomination in the United States, although we cannot find half of our 14 million members. We pride ourselves in having two of the three largest seminaries in the world. We pride ourselves in the fact that we support the world's largest missionary force.

When I was in Glorieta last year, a man received a standing ovation for having a fast-growing church. I could not help but feel that we were there

praising that pastor instead of praising God for what He was doing in that church. We need to give God the glory for His work in the S.B.C.

Lastly, we need to remember that God does not play denominational favorites. Every great movement of God in history has crossed denominational lines.

Bill Barrett
Philadelphia, PA

Politics for power

Editor:

It is truly sad when men of great oratorical ability preach to the multitudes and never come to know the Christ they preach. It is a long, long way from the Son of God on his knees, washing his disciple's feet, to ambitious preachers using politics to gain power in a Christian convention.

Ryburn T. Stancil
Terry

Dedication conflict

Editor:

I am writing to address a problem that confronts me as a grandmother. Many Baptist churches now have a dedication service for all babies born in their church family during the past year. One of my five grandchildren was dedicated on Mother's Day. This is the second time the dedication service for one of my grandchildren has been on Mother's Day. What a happy experience it would have been for me to be present at this service; however,

the fact that it was on Mother's Day presents a problem for me.

I am fortunate to have a living, elderly mother. Her special request for Mother's Day is that her children go to church with her. Knowing that she may not be physically able to attend church much longer, I wanted to go with her this year. Also, as a mother of four children, I need to be at home on Sunday afternoon so that my children can visit their mother on Mother's Day. These two situations prohibited my traveling out of town on Mother's Day to attend my granddaughter's dedication service.

Why do churches plan the dedication service on a special remembrance day such as Mother's Day? Wouldn't it be better to use a Sunday that does not already promote family gatherings?

Joyce Smith
Laurel

Child care welcomed

Editor:

I have noticed in several state papers lately that, "child care will be provided for sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention," meeting in Dallas, June 11-19.

With some of the childish attitudes being expressed and exhibited on both sides of the greater Dallas SBC shoot-out, this should certainly be one of the most needed features of the meeting.

I fear many who are headed for Dallas with a "chip on their shoulder" are simply giving evidence of a "block" higher up!

Perhaps we could get Tom Landry to volunteer the Dallas Cowboys to babysit our "blockheads" from both the "fundamental" and "liberal" sides of the O.K. Corral. At least Tom's team would be in great shape for the upcoming NFL season.

You will notice a forced note of lightness to this letter. I am so sick of reading and hearing this intra-family fight, that I am totally sick at heart. Like Peter in the storm, we've taken our eyes off our Lord while the world goes to hell! Oh yes, that noise you hear in the background is Satan laughing his horns off!

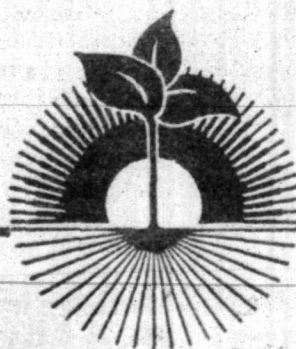
James V. Miller
Minister of Music/Youth
East Moss Point Baptist Church
Moss Point.

Marrow receives heart transplant

TUCSON, Ariz. (BP) — Dwain Marrow, 50, director of Christian education division of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico, has received a heart transplant.

Director of the BCNM division of Christian education since 1981, Marrow was admitted to the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center March 18 for evaluation as a possible heart transplant candidate. Marrow suffered a heart attack 11 years earlier in Fort Worth, after undergoing cancer surgery.

While in the Tucson hospital for evaluation, Marrow suffered another heart attack March 23. Since that time, he had suffered another attack, but finally regained sufficient strength to have the transplant.



No. 3 in a series of 10

A silent cancer

"Matter is all there is." So boasts a popular definition of communism. That may be an over-simplification. However, it goes a long way to describe a form of government that utterly denies the spiritual. You'll see an ice storm in August before you read "In God We Trust" on the coins of a communist state.

"Matter is all that counts" is a philosophy that comes closer to the American home. Those who believe this may not totally deny the spiritual, but they do discount it. Persons of this ethic are in all areas of life. They walk the streets of American cities, cultivate the farms of the Midwest, drive the interstate highways, and watch "All My Children." They even show up in Baptist churches.

"Matter is all that counts" is a subtle philosophy. Like a silent cancer, it weakens a victim before he knows it. How do you identify such a victim? Very simple: he values only what can be totaled on an adding machine, deposited in a checking account, invested in a business, plotted on a computer. Nothing else matters. Only the cold feel of cash and what it can buy at the supermarket, the drive-in, the shopping mall, the sports stadium.

In our saner moments, we know there's more to life. We sense the unseen, listen to the laughter of children, stand in awe at the presence of God. But too often "the still small voice" is drowned in the commerce of the marketplace. Planned Growth in Giving, a Southern Baptist emphasis from 1985 to 2,000 A.C., can help bring that voice to life. Don't miss it. David Michel, state stewardship department, has more details.

PLANNED GROWTH IN GIVING
"More than a slogan—bigger than a program"

Will serve Grenada

Arthur Leslie to retire as Lafayette-Marshall DOM

A reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Leslie will be held June 2 from 2:30 until 4 p.m. at First Church, Oxford.



Leslie May 19 was designed as a day of prayer for the Leslies, and churches of Lafayette association received a love offering to be sent to Jerry Patterson, 1111

Mimosa Drive, Oxford, and to be given to the Leslies at the reception on June 2.

Leslie, in July, will be moving to Grenada, where he will become director of missions for Grenada Association, in a part-time capacity.

He was born in Emporium, Pennsylvania, and was graduated from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, Bethany Church, Prentiss, ordained him in 1947, while he was a student at Mississippi College.

Pastorates he served included Byhalia (Marshall); Arcola (Washington); West End, Selma, Ala.; Houka (Chickasaw); Cranfield (Adams); Spring Hill (Tallahatchie); and Bethany (Jeff Davis).

Bentonia members search scripture, write statement of purpose

Bentonia Church, Bentonia, has completed an eight-week project in writing its statement of purpose. The church council and Sunday School council began his in March with a Bible study and prayer emphasis.

On April 28, the congregation conducted a scripture search. A specially selected committee assimilated the congregational response and wrote the document. It was adopted during the monthly business meeting May 5.

The church's Sunday School "Reach 5 in '85" campaign has produced a 10 percent increase in Sunday School enrollment and a significant attendance increase since March 1, reports the pastor, J. Courtney Selvy.

Drew sponsors 'Adopt senior adult'

The Baptist Men and Sunday School of Drew Church will be sponsoring "Adopt A Senior Adult" on Sunday, May 26. The Senior Adults will fill the choir and lead in the morning worship service.

As a special honor, church families have adopted the senior adults for the week. During this time the families

will be doing special things for them. They will sit with their adopted families during the worship services and be honored with a reception after the evening service.

There will be 67 families adopting 85 senior adults. Wilbur B. Webb is pastor.

SCRAPBOOK

The Christian in the storm

My ship was tossed — far from the peaceful shore.
One crashing wave and then another swept
Against my tiny craft and soon no more
Could these frail planks have held, and then the depths
Had been my destined place except you, Lord,
Had calmed the storm to save and rescue me.
You soothed the waters with commanding word
As that night long ago on Galilee.
Come, always guide my heart, Lord Jesus, do —
For when my spirit holds you, safety comes.
The raging tempest stills and skies turn blue —
By gentle tides reach golden shores of home.

—Monette M. Young
Jackson

Rain

It has to rain every once in a while
So greener grass can grow,
taller trees,
brighter flowers,
bluer skies —
to show His power
again.

And so with rain, salty rain
on human faces
To force fresh faith forward,
animate all ambitions,
create communication complexities,
and show
His power maintains.
—Kaye George

Jack Gunn is writing biography of Mississippi Baptist preachers

(Continued from page 3)

Historical Commission, P. O. Box 51, Clinton, MS 39056.

Directors of missions have been enlisted to help in the search for information.

"If people want to send biographies of preachers they know, friends or relatives, living or dead, we would be glad for them to do so," said Gunn. "The biographies of those who have died we can keep on file for later volumes."

Gunn, who lives in Cleveland, is typing the book on a word processor, each biography on a separate sheet. Mrs. Gunn has been assisting with proofing and corrections.

Gunn, a native of Waco, Texas, is a graduate of Baylor University, and a history major. While earning his doctorate at the University of Texas, he wrote a dissertation on Rufus C. Burleson, a former president of Baylor.

Gunn came to Mississippi in 1953. He formerly taught history at Mississippi College for 12 years. He wrote A Christian Heritage, a history

of First Baptist Church, Grenada, in 1959, and a history of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church, Waco, Tex. He was a contributor to the Southern Baptist Encyclopedia. He said that he would be glad to assist any church that needs help in writing its history.

The major purpose of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, he said, is "to collect, assimilate, and preserve Baptist historical materials and to make them available for research." The Commission has nine members.

The historical collection is located on the second floor of the Mississippi College Library in Clinton. Alice Cox is secretary and librarian. "Anything to do with Baptist history, we will take it!" said Mrs. Cox. Churches are encouraged to send their minutes and other records. Associations are urged

Ordained ministers who want their names and biographies in the book are urged to send information. They may obtain a biographical form by writing the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, P. O. Box 51, Clinton, Miss. 39056.

ed to send minutes every year. A gap in associational minutes can be a big blow to someone doing research in Baptist history.

The Historical Commission sends certificates of recognition to churches which celebrate their centennial, or anniversaries in multiples of 25, after the 100th year—if churches notify them of the celebration.

Not only has Miss Edwina Robinson made a card for the "around 10,000" ordained ministers she found in annuals. She wrote a sentence or two about each on the cards, which are on file in this library. She indexed the Baptist Record. That index is also kept in this library of the Historical Commission. She has been doing oral history interviews for several years and her findings are kept here. They will provide information for Gunn's biographical collection. Also other biographies which had been filed in the collection in years past have been made available for Gunn's use.

In 1983, questionnaires were mailed to 1,761 pastors in the state, asking for biographical information. To date, 629 have been returned. Possibly many of those 629 need to be updated. Jack Gunn states that anyone who wishes to send in an update still has time to do so.

Paul N. Harlan, pastor, dies

Paul N. Harlan, 75, of 3632 North Haven Drive, died Sunday, May 12. Services were held at 2 p.m. May 14 at Wright & Ferguson Funeral Home with burial in Floral Hills Memory Gardens.

A retired Baptist minister, he was a native of Attala County. After his ordination in 1942, he primarily served pastorates in north Mississippi, where he built and served five churches. He also was pastor in Memphis and Natchez.

He served as a Scoutmaster for five years and was a volunteer worker at the Veterans Administration Medical Center for four years. He attended Clarke College and William Carey College.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Fannie Lou Harlan; son, William B. Harlan of Jackson; daughter, Mrs. Derwood Boyles of Jackson; one brother; and three grandchildren.

ACTS will recognize Craig

Earl Craig, pastor of First Church, Jackson, will be among pastors to be recognized during a first anniversary reception June 12 at the Dallas Hilton for ACTS, the denomination's nationwide TV network.

First Church, Jackson, is one of a number of Southern Baptist churches which have appeared on the show, "Great Churches of America." Other churches on the show have included First, Dallas; First, Atlanta; and First, Del City, Okla.

The reception will take place after the Wednesday evening session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- May 26 Associational Emphasis Sunday (HMB Emphasis)
Christian Peacemaking Day (CAC Emphasis)
May 27-31 Royal Ambassador Camp Staff Week; Central Hills Retreat; 10:00 a.m., 27th-Noon, 31st (BRO)

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"Thank God It's Monday"

And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb . . . (Mark 16:2).

By John Thomason

At the end of a typical week, American workers may be heard to offer a doxology of relief: "T. G. I. F.!"—"Thank Goodness It's Friday!"

Can you imagine a similar enthusiasm for the beginning of a working week?



Thomason

"T. G. I. M.!"—"Thank Goodness It's Monday!" One woman confessed, "I just hate Monday morning! I hate it! I hate getting up and doing my hair and fixing my face and putting on my heels and my suit, and going out there to smile at everyone again when I really don't feel like smiling at all!"

Why are Mondays such a dread for so many? Why the sense that we are being shipped back to boot camp after a two-day leave? Ironically, our problem with Mondays may be rooted in a misunderstanding about Sundays. We designated Sunday as "the Lord's Day," implying that the other days of the week belong to someone else (the boss? the devil?). Sundays are thus filled with sacred significance, while weekdays are written off as a "secular" side-show.

Moreover, we picture our week beginning on Monday and not on Sunday. On our mental calendars, the Lord's Day is the last day of the long weekend rather than the first day of the new week. What this means is that Sunday is the day when we squeeze every possible ounce of pleasure out of a fading weekend, instead of the day when we consecrate ourselves to God for the week that lies ahead. Is it any wonder that we groan and complain and find ourselves depressed when we face again our weekly routine?

"Very early on the first day of the week" three women brought spices to anoint the body of Jesus. What they experienced on that Sunday was a resurrection—a transfusion of power which carried them through the week and carried the church through the centuries!

When the week begins on Sunday, Mondays are invested with energy and meaning. The Lord's Week becomes as important as the Lord's Day.

An Oklahoma executive reports that he goes to his office at 6:15 every morning. Instead of doing dictation or reading the *Wall Street Journal*, he spends thirty minutes alone with God. "The last thing I do is to offer myself to God for that day. I say, 'You have created me, God. I am yours. Help me be your employee today.'" When asked why he keeps this discipline in his office rather than his home, he replied, "My office is kind of like a chapel to me in a way, and my desk is kind of like an altar . . . I feel it's important for me to offer myself in that place every day."

God help us to put a spire on our work and a prayer on our lips: "Thank God It's Monday!"

Thomason is pastor, Northminster Church, Jackson.

Homecomings

Antioch, Rt. 1, Monticello: homecoming, May 26; regular morning services, 10 a.m.; lunch served at noon in fellowship hall; singing in afternoon; John Hedgepeth, pastor.

Lambert: homecoming, May 26; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; morning worship at 10:50 a.m.; lunch served on church grounds; David Sartin, minister of youth and activities at First, Wiggins, message; other former members will participate in the services; Wayne Long, pastor.

Mt. Pisgah, Sandhill: homecoming, May 26; regular morning services; dinner; song service in the afternoon; W. T. Dixon, Jr., pastor; Chuck Truitt, song director.

Friendship, Route 7, Brookhaven: homecoming, May 26; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; morning worship service, 11 a.m.; old fashion "dinner on the ground" planned for noon hour; afternoon worship service following; John Ira Hill, former pastor of Friendship, speaker; Harold Luther Smith, music director, Friendship in charge of music; Wiley Reid, pastor.

Souenlovie, Rt. 2 Enterprise: homecoming, May 26; services, 10 a.m. with special singing; lunch will be served at noon; no afternoon services; Parker Chancellor, pastor.

First, Marion: homecoming, May 26; worship service, 11 a.m.; followed by dinner on ground and a musical presentation; Randy Scarbrough, pastor.

Johnson Creek, State Line: homecoming, May 26; services, 11 a.m.; lunch, 12 noon, fellowship hall; L. W. Haselmaier, pastor, speaker.

Concord (Franklin): homecoming, May 26; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; morning worship, 11 a.m.; Carl Hudson, former pastor, preaching; dinner on ground, noon; afternoon service, 1:15 p.m.; Robert Conner, pastor.

Wayside, Grenada: annual memorial/homecoming, May 26; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; 11 a.m., William P. Smith, III, director of missions, Lee County and former pastor of Wayside, guest speaker; covered dish dinner on the grounds will follow preaching service, singing in the afternoon; David Norris, pastor.

Missionary News

John W. and Elizabeth Merfitt are home on furlough from Wiesbaden, West Germany. They are residing in Hattiesburg at 108 South 17th Avenue. The telephone number is (601) 582-5729.

Seminary commencement is Saturday

The public is invited to attend the 42nd Commencement exercises of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. The event will be Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m. at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church; 1245 Tunica Street, Jackson.

Commencement speaker will be Earl Craig, pastor of First Church, Jackson.

During the commencement exercises, the seminary will give academic awards in the form of certificates, diplomas, and degrees to 81 graduates according to Academic Dean Hickman M. Johnson.

Revival Dates

Johnson Creek, State Line: May 26-31; services start Sunday evening; services each evening during week; Dwight Smith, West Ellisville, Ellisville, evangelist; L. W. Haselmaier, pastor.

Meadowview, Starkville: May 26-31; Wayne Barber and Roy Hession, author of "The Calvary Road", speakers; Sunday services, 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m., 7 p.m., lunch will be served each day at noon beginning Monday. (No charge); L. J. Brewer, pastor.

Parkhill, Jackson: May 26-29; Carl Savell, pastor, Woodville Heights, Jackson, evangelist; Raymond Ball, minister of music, Woodville Heights, music; Sunday services, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; weekday services, 7:30 nightly Mon. through Wed.; James C. Edwards, pastor.

Goshen (Simpson): homecoming, May 26; begins revival through May 31; Harold Gartman, evangelist; Donald Walker, music; W. P. Blair, pastor.

Heidelberg, (Jasper), May 26-29; begins with evening service, May 26, 7:00 p.m., through May 29; Robert Perry, pastor, First, Waynesboro, evangelist. Jamie W. Tynes, pastor.

Sapa (Webster): May 26-31; services, 7:00 p.m.; Gary "Slim" Cornett, associate pastor - minister of music, McDowell Road; Jackson, evangelist; Ralph Stallings, pastor.

Burnside, Philadelphia: Wed.-Fri., May 29, 30, 31; services, 7 p.m. nightly; Eddie Ruddick, Bible department, Clarke College, evangelist; June 1, 7 p.m. Sunrise singers will present a worship service in song; Mack Carney, pastor.

Four GA weeks are filled, some open

Four of the summer weeks of GA camp and the mini-week are filled to capacity, yet three still have space available as does Acteens week, according to Trish Simmons, GA/Mission Friends consultant.

The camps take place at Camp Garaywa near Clinton.

Sessions which are yet open are June 3-7, July 15-19, July 22-26, and Acteens week which is July 29-August 2.

Sessions which are full are June 10-14, June 17-21, June 24-28, July 1-3, and July 8-12.

Thursday, May 16, 1985

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

CT leadership conference will feature Howington

Nolan Howington will be the featured preacher/Bible study leader for the Church Training Leadership



Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, June 26-29. Gary Anglin, minister of music for First Church, Pascagoula, will be music director. The Church Training Leadership Conference will feature age group conferences for leaders in Church Training. A special conference for associational directors of missions and associational Church Training directors of missions is also planned.

Howington, prior to retirement, was the curriculum development coordinator in the Church Training department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. For ten years before his assignment at the Sunday School Board, he was professor of ethics at Southern Seminary.

Reservations are available for the conference and may be received by writing to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571. A \$30 reservation fee must accompany each request. Cost for the conference ranges from \$80.50 to \$88, depending upon accommodations. For further information contact the Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

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Banquet will honor Davis

William P. Davis, who is retiring as executive secretary of the Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference, is among those to be honored at the conference's annual banquet, June 3 at Calvary Baptist Church, at 6:30 p.m.

Davis is the retired director for Black church relations for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and will be honored along with Duncan Gray, Episcopal bishop; Beatrice Gotthelf of Beth Israel congregation; and Dolphus Weary of Mendenhall Ministries.

Catholic Bishop Joseph Howze of the Biloxi Diocese will be featured speaker at the banquet.

The banquet is open to the public, with advance tickets at \$8. For information or tickets, contact Davis at 372-5372, or write him at Box 6546, Jackson, Miss. 39212.

Brogan will study in Switzerland

The board of trustees of Mississippi Baptist Seminary has granted President Richard Brogan a four month study leave at the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, June-September.

Brogan will serve also as interim pastor at First Baptist Church, Giessen, West Germany, and will have special assignments at Bishop College in Dallas, and the Crescent Bay Association in Inglewood, Calif.

Mississippi Baptist Seminary is a cooperative venture of National and Southern Baptists. Brogan has been president since 1978.

Revival Results

Center Hill and Bartahatchie, Hamilton, sponsored crusade jointly; services held in family life building of Center Hill; 51 professions of faith, three for special service; Don Nerren, pastor, Center Hill; Julian Thompson, pastor, Bartahatchie.

Mississippians are graduated from Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH, Texas — Eleven Mississippians were among the 468 students receiving degrees from



Southwestern Seminary during commencement ceremonies May 10.

President Russell H. Dilday awarded degrees to the largest graduating class in the history of the seminary at 10 a.m. at Travis Avenue Baptist Church.

William M. Pinson Jr. delivered the commencement address. Pinson is executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Among the degrees awarded were 20 doctorates and the second degree Southwestern has ever awarded posthumously.

One Will Hong, a Korean student who died March 31 from injuries suffered in an auto accident, was awarded the master of divinity degree he had been working toward since early 1982.

The only other degree Southwestern has awarded posthumously was granted in 1966 to Richard E. Norton, a doctoral candidate who was

Southwestern's director of student activities. He died after an illness of several weeks.

One of the 20 doctorates went to a Mississippian, B. Keith Putt of Corinth, who received the doctor of philosophy degree.

Other Mississippians who received degrees are Billy G. Bozeman of Jackson, Ala. and Pascagoula, Miss., associate in divinity; Martha Lynn Greer, Jackson, master of arts in religious education; Gaynell (Gary) Blair, Starkville, master of divinity; Eric Dean Ertle, Indianola, master of divinity; Carol R. Anthony,

Jackson, master of arts in religious education; Joey Julian Brent, Bogie Chitto, master of divinity; Leslie Claire Baughman, Drew, master of arts in marriage and family counseling; Peggy Elizabeth Chandler, Tupelo, master of arts in religious education;

David G. Webb, Forest, master of arts in religious education; Laura E. Moak, McComb, master of arts in religious education.



Pineview and Pinecrest combine to form Ridglea Heights Church

The newly formed Ridglea Heights Baptist Church on Hwy. 613, north Escatawpa, held its official organizational service on April 28, at 1:15 p.m.

This new church came into being as a result of the merger of two area churches, Pineview Church, Moss Point, and Pinecrest Church, Escatawpa. J. D. Lundy, pastor of Pineview, and W. R. Wyser, pastor of Pinecrest, are co-pastors of the new congregation.

Zeno Wells, acting director of missions, Jackson County Association, brought the afternoon message, a challenge to the new church on its responsibility in the local community.

The new church has already begun to accept its responsibility with an active visitation/outreach program which shows an eight percent increase in Sunday School enrollment for the first quarter.

Staff Changes

Mike Smith has resigned as minister of music at Parkway Church, Jackson, to become minister of music at First Church, Arlington, Tex. He has served at Parkway nearly five years. His wife, Sharon, has been employed with the Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Smith was accompanist for the Mississippi Singing Churchmen.

Robert H. "Bob" Connerley has been called as pastor of Second Church, Greenville. He is a native of Grenada and a graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. Connerley is married to the former Patsy Harrelson and they have one daughter and two sons.



Mars

Smith

John Mars, a native of Quitman, has assumed the duties as pastor of McLaurin First Church, Lebanon Association, Hattiesburg. Mars goes from Memorial Church in Perry County. He is a graduate of University of Southern Mississippi and is presently enrolled in New Orleans Seminary. His wife, Melanie, is graduating from U.S.M. in August.

William Smith of Vicksburg is the new music and youth director. He is a junior at William Carey College.

Donald Riley has resigned as pastor of Carson Ridge Church, Attala County, to accept the pastorate of Horseshoe Church, Holmes County.

David Webb has joined the staff of Forest Church as director of summer youth ministries. He recently received the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary.

Locust Street, McComb, has called Glenn Kelly as pastor. He goes to Locust Street from Harrisville Church, Harrisville. Kelly and his family moved into the parsonage May 3.

Robert Williams is the new pastor of Cambridge Church, Jackson County Association.

Byron Parker has accepted a call as pastor of Riverside Church, Jackson County Association. He is a former pastor of Ingalls Avenue Church, Pascagoula.

Steven R. Pettey has accepted the pastorate of Liberty Church, Mississippi Association. He is graduating this month from New Orleans Seminary.

David Rowson has resigned as pastor of Mantee Church, Mantee, to accept a call as pastor of Lighthouse Church, North Palm Beach, Florida. He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary and previously served the New Henleyfield Baptist Church in Carriere.

Commission Road Church, Gulf Coast, has employed Vickie Roche as church secretary.

James Roberson has accepted the call as pastor of Bellevue, (Lamar Assn.). He and his family moved on the church field. May 20, and he will preach his first sermon, May 26. He is going from Phalti Church, Jeff-Davis Association.

Jim Dalrymple is the new associate director of missions for Gulf Coast Association. He moved from First Church, West Point where he was minister of education. Dalrymple was born in Guntersville, Ala. He attended University of Alabama, and was graduated from Southwestern Seminary. He has served churches as minister of music and education, and as minister of education. He and his wife, Rae, have three children.

Timothy Moran has resigned as pastor of Delisle Church, Gulf Coast.

Trinity Church, Biloxi, has called Ron Reynolds as minister of music.

Donnie Guy has resigned the pastorate of Woolmarket Church, Gulf Coast, and has accepted the pastorate of Van Winkle Church, Jackson.

Jan Peterman has resigned as secretary in the associational office, Gulf Coast Association. Gary Daymond is the new secretary replacing her. Gary has worked as administrative secretary to Frank Simmons, director, Gulfshore Assembly, for six years. She and her husband, Keith, have four children.

God never imposes a duty without giving time and strength to perform it.

Trustees affirm Honeycutt, adopt \$12.6 million budget

LOUISVILLE, KY. (BP) — The board of trustees of Southern Seminary here unanimously voted to reaffirm their support of President Roy L. Honeycutt, created a new degree program, and adopted a \$12.6 million budget during their annual meeting.

Reporting to trustees, Honeycutt announced \$1.1 million in new endowment gifts and a third consecutive year of record enrollment gains. The board also participated in the dedication of a million-dollar addition to Cooke Hall, home of the seminary's School of Church Music.

In their final action the trustees supported a motion by trustee Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarcrest Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., unanimously adopting a statement in which they expressed "our love and concern and admiration of Roy Honeycutt as our president, and pledge our fellowship of him." Earlier they also voted 38-12 to reaffirm the Executive Committee's resolution "The President and Denominational Leadership," adopted unanimously in the committee's October meeting.

In what was called "a pioneering step for theological education and music education in this country" by Dean Milburn Price of the School of Church Music, the trustees created a Doctor of Music Ministry degree. The degree will provide a professional doctorate for music ministers which parallels the Doctor of Ministry degree available to pastors and other church leaders.

Elected Elizabeth Lambert vice-president of student services. She was dean of students at the seminary for several years.

Elected John H. Dickson, director of the Longhorn Singers at the University of Texas, as assistant professor of church music.

First Ellisville, gave \$6,625.00

In the list of Lottie Moon Offering gifts printed in the Baptist Record on April 25, the name of First Church, Ellisville, was omitted. That church gave \$6,625.00 to the 1984 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Two are graduated from Southeastern

Two Mississippians were graduated from Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., on May 11, one receiving a doctorate.



James Ronald Boswell received the doctorate of ministry degree. He is the son of Mrs. Cecil Boswell of Noxapater and is a graduate of Mississippi College. His wife is the former Carolyn Cockrell of Mantachie. Boswell is pastor of Clement Church, Person County, N. C.

Wilfred Adams Barnhill of Vicksburg received the associate of divinity degree.

Appointed two professors to endowed chairs: R. Alan Culpepper to the James Buchanan Harrison Chair of New Testament Interpretation, and Page Kelley to the John R. Sampey of Old Testament Interpretation.

Promoted five professors to new academic ranks: Culpepper to professor of New Testament Interpretation; Wade Rowatt, to professor of psychology of religion; Frank Tupper, to professor of Christian theology; Ronald E. Boud, to professor of church music and J. Ralph Hardee, to professor of church administration.

Two among top

In 1984's top 25 SBC churches giving through the Cooperative Program, in dollar amount, two were from Mississippi. They are First Church, Jackson, giving \$427,500 (tenth), and Broadmoor, Jackson, giving \$309,451 (17th).

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HEAD COACH, MEN'S BASKETBALL. Joint appointment: basketball coach/instructor of physical education. Varsity program participates in National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. College belongs to NAIA District 30 and Gulf Coast Athletic Conference. Master's degree in physical education required; successful background in coaching necessary, preferably at collegiate level. Send letter of application and resume (before June 3) to: Athletic Director, Louisiana College, Pineville, LA 71359. Equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

HMB affirms Parks, Tanner, urges Gilmore re-election

ATLANTA (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's executive committee has voted to affirm recent public statements by the presidents of the SBC's two mission boards, and urged reelection of the board's former chairman to the agency's board of directors.

The HMB executive committee commended SBC Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks and HMB President William G. Tanner for recent statements on the effect of SBC political controversies on Baptist missions.

In a second vote, the 25-member committee urged messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas to reinstate Jerry Gilmore, a Dallas attorney, as a member of the board.

Gilmore, whose wife teaches at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas as a Methodist minister, is not being renominated for a second term by the SBC committee on boards after a split vote by the committee.

"We deplore this blatant effort to remove this fair and resourceful leader," said the HMB executive committee motion, made by D. F. Norman of Atlanta, director of pastoral ministries for the Georgia Baptist Convention.

The executive committee affirmed Gilmore's "love for missions," described him as "an asset to this agency," and expressed appreciation for "his able leadership." Gilmore was chairman of the board for two years until April of 1985.

Speaking to his motion, Norman recalled that last year the SBC Committee on Boards had "bumped" Richard Eskew, pastor of First Baptist Church, Yadkinville, N.C., from the Home Mission Board, and pointed out Gilmore was the only person eligible this year for reelection not being renominated for a second term.

In discussing the motion, several board members suggested copies of the action be sent to the SBC committee on boards for consideration in their pre-convention meeting, with a request they reconsider the decision not to renominate Gilmore.

Norman commended Tanner for a statement mailed earlier to all HMB directors expressing deep concern because Gilmore was not being renominated "simply because he is controversial." Tanner said Gilmore, a deacon and active member of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, has been an effective board member and committed supporter of missions and the Cooperative Program.

In another action, the 19 HMB executive committee members present affirmed and commended both Tanner and Parks for statements "tailored to deal with the threat to our Baptist missions program."

Earlier, Jim Strickland, pastor of First Baptist Church, Cartersville, Ga., had made a motion to commend Parks "for his courageous stand concerning the threat to Bold Mission Thrust created by the political network which has conspired to seize control of our convention through manipulation of the boards and threatening to escrow Cooperative Program funds."

Parks issued a statement April 22 concerning attacks by conservatives on missions. When questioned about the statement later by a reporter Parks said he could not support the reelection of Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, as SBC president because of a felt need for elected leadership with a proven record of cooperative missions.

In statements to Baptist Press responding to Parks' comments, Tanner stopped short of refusing to support Stanley, but agreed with Parks' assessment of the effect of the SBC controversy on missions.

Barbara Fain of Dunwoody, Ga., said she could not conscientiously support Strickland's motion endorsing Parks' stand, adding she felt it would negate Tanner's statement, "which I think showed great wisdom."

A substitute motion by John Hessel of West Frankfort, Ill., would have affirmed only Tanner's statement of concern "for the cause of world missions and our demonination," but the executive committee approved 18-1 an amendment by Bill Sherman of Nashville, Tenn., supporting both Parks and Tanner.

After the amended motion was adopted without opposition, Fain asked: "Does this mean we are saying we don't want Stanley to be reelected?"

Newly-elected HMB Chairman Travis E. Wiginton, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Norman, Okla., said he did not feel the action could be interpreted as endorsing or opposing any candidate or how board members would vote as individuals.

Eddie Rickenbaker, pastor of First Baptist Church, Belton, S.C., agreed, saying he was not ready to say publicly if he would vote for Stanley or not.

In interviews after the meeting, both Sherman and Strickland said their motions are intended to endorse and commend Parks' opposition to Stanley, as well as the statements by both Tanner and Parks on the effect of the controversy on missions. Strickland and Sherman said they did not agree with Wiginton's interpretation of the meaning of the action by the committee.

The meeting closed with prayer led by Gilmore, who asked God to help Southern Baptists to see beyond the present political turmoil to greater and higher commitment to missions.

State leadership suggestions disregarded in appointments

By Dan Martin

DALLAS (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention President Charles F. Stanley largely disregarded suggestions by state convention leadership when he made appointments to two key committees, according to an elected SBC officer and a survey of state convention presidents.

Stanley, pastor of First Church, Atlanta, recently appointed the 52-member Committee on Committees and the 10-member Resolutions Committee to serve at the 1985 SBC, scheduled in Dallas June 11-13.

In announcing the appointments, he said the 62 were selected from a list of more than 500 names submitted by "state convention executive directors, presidents . . . and individuals."

Don Wideman, pastor of First Church, North Kansas City, Mo., and second vice president of the convention, said according to his records state executives submitted "about 300 names" to Stanley for consideration. "Only three of those names showed up on the Committee on Committees and one on the Resolutions Committee," Wideman said.

Following Wideman's comments on the disparity between recommendations by state leaders and appointment, Baptist Press contacted the presidents of 21 of the 26 states eligible for representation on SBC committees.

With only one exception — Alabama — each of the presidents reported none of the persons they nominated for the two committees were named.

"It was a nice, friendly gesture for Dr. Stanley to invite us to have input," said Raymond Boswell, a Shreveport

insurance executive who is president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. "But in the end, it didn't mean anything."

"We got a letter inviting our recommendations. Dr. Lee (Robert L. Lee, executive director of the LBC) and I both submitted names of people who are actively involved in the life and work of their local church, association, state, and national conventions," Boswell said.

"None of the people we recommended were appointed. I have to say I am very disappointed," Boswell said.

"I appreciated his letter asking us to give input, but the action was without meaning. It had absolutely no significance," Boswell added.

Only one state convention president, Wallace Henley, pastor of McElwain Church, Birmingham, and president of the Alabama Baptist Convention, said he had nominated a person who ultimately had been appointed.

"I put together a list of names but I probably overdid it. I submitted three pages of names to him (Stanley)," Henley said, adding he nominated Al Jackson, pastor of Lakeview Church, Auburntown, who was appointed to the Committee on Committees.

According to Wideman's records, only in Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Missouri were recommendations followed.

Wideman said only Jackson; James Bryant, pastor of Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith, Ark.; and John Gilbert, pastor of First Church, Poplar Bluff, Mo., and president of the Missouri Baptist Convention, were

Bellevue (Lamar) went over its Annie Armstrong goal by \$367. The church goal was \$1,500 and the church

collected \$1,867. The church held a March For Mission on Easter Sunday and collected over \$1,600 for missions.



Grace, Philadelphia held ground breaking services April 28, to begin construction for its new building, which will be an education building and temporary sanctuary. Charles Pickering, president, Mississippi Baptist Convention, was speaker for the morning services. Lunch was served. Grady Collins, chairman of the New Church Expansion Committee of Southern Baptist Convention, attended the ground breaking services in the afternoon. Dennis Duvall, pastor, looks on as Mrs. Sadie White, the oldest charter member of Grace Church, and Kelly Fulton, Penny Pickle and Betsy Lee, three of the newest members of the church, held the shovel. The church plans to be in the new building by October 1, 1985.

"If there is any turmoil in our state convention, I am not aware of it. The Cooperative Program is up \$1 million over last year, Mission Texas is right on schedule and we are moving right along," he said.

"What shocked me was that his office wrote and asked us for input. I assumed they at least wanted them; then I find out they never considered them because there was so much 'turmoil.' I would have rather he had not even asked for my recommendations," Moore said.

Wideman, who was elected second vice-president at the 1984 annual meeting in Kansas City, said he wrote to state convention executives two months after his election — on Aug. 16, 1984 — asking their recommendations.

"I told them I hoped Charles (Stanley) would ask them for such a list," Wideman said. "I asked them to provide me with names because I was trying to get acquainted with people from all over the convention. I asked the executives to suggest people who would represent their conventions well."

Wideman said all of the executives with one exception of leaders in Michigan and Indiana, responded with names. When Wideman compiled his list there were 294 names on it.

Later, Stanley compiled a list of 500 names from which he said he was going to make selections.

"I suggested people who are solid conservative Southern Baptists, who do not have an ax to grind and who have not been identified with any group in the convention," Wideman said. "He (Stanley) did not appoint any of them."

Wideman added: "I think every state should look at their own representatives and see if they really do represent the state."

Dan Martin is Baptist Press new editor.

Baptist Record

• Bible Book: *Acclaim and opposition in Jerusalem*
• Uniform: *Two ways of life*
• Life and Work: *God desires peace*

Acclaim and opposition in Jerusalem

By Bill R. Baker
Luke 19:28-21:4

The entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem generated both acclaim and opposition. Three episodes in the city will serve to illustrate the theme of the lesson.

An acclaimed king (19:28-40). In Palestine the donkey was a noble beast and when a king came riding on a donkey that meant he came in peace. But if the king were riding on a horse he was coming for war. Jesus the Heavenly King came in peace, for he was riding on a donkey. When he comes again he will be riding on a horse! The colt was fitted for sacred purposes, for no man had sat upon him (v. 30). The scene was the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy from Zechariah 9:9.

The proclamation of the people (v. 38) not only fulfills the prophetic statement in Psalm 118:26, but also reveals a lack of understanding since, according to Mark 11:10, the people used the word "Hosanna" which means "save us now." The cry was for the Messiah to break the power of the Romans and save them now, that is, fulfill all the nationalistic dreams. Are the people asking him to be their sovereign or their servant? Would they use God or be used of God? Is their desire for him for his blessings?

A cleansed temple (19:45-48). Having arrived in the city Jesus goes to the temple where he discovers two atrocities at the place of worship. First, he discovered the exploitation of the worshippers. Every male Jew was required each year to pay a temple tax, much of which was paid by pilgrims who came to the Passover. Since the tax was accepted only in Galilean shekels, those coming from other places had to exchange their coins for these. The money changers made exorbitant charges for the exchange. The church is always out of step with divine purposes when worshippers are exploited.

Jesus also discovered the desecration of the worship place. The animals used for sacrifice could be bought outside the gates at reasonable prices; however, these would not usually pass inspection since they had to be without blemish. Consequently, animals for sacrifice were sold at higher prices. This practice not only exploited the person who worshipped but also desecrated the place of worship. Jesus demonstrated his authority by casting out these who sold and bought.

A crafty inquiry (20:20-26). The tax in question here was a poll tax exacted

from everyone. If Jesus says they must pay, then it may be concluded that he is not the Messiah who has come to deliver, but rather is calling for further submission. If he says they should not pay, then he could be accused of turning the people against the government.

Actually, they were concerned about having to pay the taxes when they really should have been concerned about rendering to God. In fact, the problem of servitude may have resulted from their failure to prove themselves faithful stewards. One of the most talked about matters in America today is taxes. What would happen in this country if Americans spent as much time talking about what they should render to God as they spend talking about what they are rendering to government (Caesar)?

It is amazing that crucifixion follows so closely on the heels of acclamation. These words of Jesus could not be used against him (v. 26), so the search continues for words that can be used against him. The one who opposes will use the words of Jesus; whereas, the one who acclaims will receive and obey his words.

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Two ways of life

By W. Levon Moore
Proverbs 1:7; 3:5-8; 14:1-12

The scripture for today deals with two ways of life and the need for one to make the right choice concerning the way he will follow. The two ways are the way of the wise and the way of the foolish.

The way of life is often compared to a journey. There is, of necessity, a beginning point, the course of the journey itself, and the destination.

Let us build our discussion of today's lesson around these facets of a journey.

I. The beginning of the way (Proverbs 1:7)

The writer of Proverbs recognized the importance of making a good beginning in the building of a life. He placed the matter in focus as he wrote, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..." (1:7a). The author equates wisdom and knowledge in this instance. There is a worldly knowledge that is to be distinguished from wisdom. Here, however, the author begins with God.

The first four words of the Bible declare, "In the beginning, God..." (Gen. 1:1). Though these words refer to life in a larger context, they also signal the truth that in the beginning of the life of the wise person there must be the recognition of God. The opposite way is represented by the fool who says in his heart, "There is no God" (Psalm 53:1).

The way of wisdom begins with the conscious decision to make God the supreme ruler in one's life. It is variously described as becoming a Christian, being born again, receiving new life in Christ, or becoming a new creature. Jesus described it as entering into a way. In the Sermon on the Mount he declared, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:13-14). For Jesus, each way of life has a beginning either through the straight gate or the broad way. The beginning of the true way, the way of the wise, is through Jesus Christ. Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: No man cometh unto the father but by me" (John 14:6).

The primary question for each one Israel's shepherd would do all these things in an extraordinary way, for he would do them "in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God" (v. 4).

Finally, the coming king would inaugurate an era of perpetual peace (v. 5a). Nothing like it was ever dreamed of before. The peace, tranquility, and security of the people of God is going to be so admired and respected that he will be considered "great to the ends of the earth" (v. 4b). Thus biblical peace will reign supreme for it means complete, harmonious unity with God and with man.

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of us is, "Have I entered the right way, and am I on the journey that will lead me to eternal life?"

II. The continuation of the way (Proverbs 14:1-12; 3:5-8)

Following the beginning of the way, the journey of life must be continued. In our focal passage, Proverbs 14:1-12, the author uses many comparisons and illustrations to contrast the way of the wise with the way of the foolish.

The successful continuation of a journey depends upon going in the right direction, following the correct signs or guidelines, avoiding unnecessary detours and pitfalls, taking adequate provisions and equipment, and persistence in continuing even in the presence of difficulty. These same things are necessary for a successful continuation of the journey of life. One must choose the better way rather than the lesser way if life's journey is to be successful. He must trust in the Lord with all his heart, lean not to his own understanding, and acknowledge the Lord in all his ways... (Proverbs 3:5-6).

III. The end of the way (Proverbs 14:12)

The writer was aware of the two destinies represented in the two ways of life. He wrote, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (14:12). This is akin to the two potential destinies referred to by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount as he spoke of the broad way which leads to destruction and the narrow way which leads to life (Matt. 7:13-14).

Each of us is on one of these two ways of life. We selected our way through a conscious act of choice, and one day we will reach a final destination.

One of the joys of adulthood is to look back across the years of our Christian pilgrimage and consider the blessings of the Lord as we have sought to follow in his way.

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God desires peace

By James F. Yates
Micah 4:2-4; 5:2-5a

Micah 4:2-4

Whereas the closing verse of chapter 3 speaks of Jerusalem's downfall and the destruction of the house of the Lord on Mount Zion (3:12), the section now under consideration speaks of hope and cheer. The nations of the earth come to the temple ("mountain of the house of the Lord" in verse 1) not to offer sacrifices on its altar, but to receive the law and the word of the Lord (v. 2). The Law had been given to Israel at Mount Sinai; it would be given to the nations at Mount Zion. The nations of the earth come now to seek the God of Israel. They want to learn of his ways so they may walk in his paths.

No word of scripture is quoted more frequently and with greater longing than verse 3 which depicts the world at peace. Truly it is to be the "day of the Lord," since through his judgment strong nations will be curbed and the occasions for war removed. This will make it possible for all wars to cease. There will be no need for the tools and machine of war.

No nation will have occasion to lift up arms against another nation since God settles all differences rightly and fairly. Therefore, the implements of war can be converted into instruments of peaceful use. They can be turned to the care of the soil, the production of food, and the tending and pruning of natural beauty for the benefit of all mankind. The words of this vision have been inscribed on the walls of the United Nations building

in New York City, keeping before the assembled nations the dream of a world without war. One wonders if we, too, will have to become a "heap of ruins" before we take this dream seriously.

In verse 4 Micah wants to show what the absence of war, the absence of the making of the machines of war, and the refusal to study and teach the arts of war are really like. Each man will be able to devote himself to the land, to agriculture. He will have his own grape vine and fig tree, not only for wine and fruit, but for shade; and he will have leisure to enjoy it. Since he will not have to go to war, he will have no need to fear harm and danger. In fact, no one will make him afraid. Micah 5:2-5a

This passage deals with the origin of the expected Messiah and the nature of his kingship, which is one of peace. It became one of the key passages in the early church's understanding of the birth of Jesus (Matt. 2:5-6; John 7:42).

Messiah was expected to be of the dynasty of David. The prophet remembered his history well and knew that Bethlehem was where the great King David originated. He could see a future time when another great king will come from this out-of-the-way little town. He will be a second and much greater David. Ephrathah was the name given to the larger district in which Bethlehem was located. Bethlehem was a small and insignificant village and it was unthinkable

that it could produce a new and greater David, but again it demonstrates God's use of things that are weak to confound the strong.

Messiah's lineage was "from of old, from ancient days." This meant that he was descended from the ancient dynasty of David. He was no imposter to the throne, but one whose credentials were valid. The fact that he came from Bethlehem and not from Jerusalem meant that God intended to make a new beginning with the institution of kingship.

Verse 3 indicates that while Israel waited for the Messiah she would be given into the hands of the nations by God himself and would be subjected to terrifying experiences until such a time God chose to bring forth a new king and re-establish the monarchy. Israel's time of waiting is compared to that of a woman waiting in labor to give birth to her child. With the restoration of the kingship the Jews who were scattered in exile among the nations would be brought back to Palestine "to the people of Israel" who had already returned.

Verse 4 and the first phrase of verse 5 give a brief description of the character of the coming messianic king. He is going to be different from the usual king of biblical times. He will be a shepherd king rather than a warrior king.

The shepherd's care of the flock involved three things: protecting and defending it, feeding and nourishing it, and guiding and directing it.

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